

SB 431 -- INFORMED CONSENT FOR EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENTS

SPONSOR: Gibbons (Threlkeld)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 14 to 0.

Current law specifies persons who may give consent for treatment at a teaching hospital using an experimental drug or treatment when a patient is incapable of giving consent. This bill revises the language of the statute so it applies to such treatment by a teaching hospital.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill provides an additional option for patients to receive experimental medical treatments in a non-hospital setting.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Gibbons; Washington University School of Medicine; and Missouri Hospital Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Joseph Deering, Legislative Analyst